

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KABUL 05610 120421Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00 SS-15  
SSO-00 NSCE-00 SP-02 PM-05 /043 W  
-----098536 120429Z /14  
O 120330Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9005

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EO 11652: NA  
TAGS: PINT, PEPR, US, AF  
SUBJ: NEW AFGHAN AMBASSADOR DEPARTS FOR THE UNITED STATES

1. THE NEW AFGHAN AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S., NOOR AHMAD NOOR, DEPARTED KABUL THE MORNING OF JULY 11 TO TAKE UP HIS DUTIES IN WASHINGTON. WE WERE GIVEN LESS THAN 48 HOURS NOTICE OF THIS, AND ALTHOUGH I HAD ONLY ARRIVED THE DAY BEFORE AND HAD NOT PRESENTED MY CREDENTIALS, I WENT OUT TO THE AIRPORT WITH A FEW MEMBERS OF MY STAFF TO SEE HIM OFF. HE IS AN APPEALING MAN, TALL FOR AN AFGHAN, AND MAKES A GOOD IMPRESSION. WE CHATTED BRIEFLY THROUGH AN INTERPRETER. HE SAID HE UNDERSTOOD ENGLISH, BUT WOULD HAVE TO BRUSH UP ON HIS SPOKEN ENGLISH.

2. FIVE CABINET MEMBERS SHOWED UP TO SAY FAREWELL TO NOOR, FORMER MINISTER OF INTERIOR, WHO WAS THE SECOND MOST IMPORTANT VICTIM OF THE MOVE BY TARAKI TO EXILE LEADING PARCHAMISTS WITHIN THE REGIME'S LEADERSHIP (DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER BABRAK KARMAL LEFT TWO DAYS AGO FOR HIS POST IN PRAGUE). DEFENSE MINISTER GENERAL ABDUL QADER WAS AMONG THOSE AT THE AIRPORT, BUT FOREIGN MINISTER AMIN, ALLEGEDLY A BITTER RIVAL OF BABRAK AND NOOR, WAS NOT.

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3. NOT SURPRISINGLY, THE AMBIANCE OF THE OCCASION WAS MORE LIKE A WAKE THAN A CELEBRATION. NOOR WAS VERY SUBDUED, BUT HE DID MANAGE A SMILE AND A WAVE FOR A SMALL GROUP OF YOUNG PARCHAMISTS WHO HAD COME TO SEE ONE OF THEIR LEADERS OFF TO POLITICAL EXILE. NOOR'S WIFE AND SMALL CHILD ACCOMPANIED HIM. RUMORS SUGGEST THAT THE NEW AMBASSADOR WILL DIVORCE

HER BECAUSE HER FATHER IS A MEMBER OF AND SUPPORTED  
THE TRIUMPHANT KHALQ FACTION OF PRIME MINISTER TARAHI.

4. AIRPORT SECURITY WAS NOT NOTICEABLY TIGHTER  
THAN USUAL. THIS WAS IN CONTRAST TO BABRAK'S DEPARTURE,  
DURING WHICH THE PARHAM LEADER REPORTEDLY  
ENJOYED A HEAVILY ARMED ESCORT ONTO HIS PLANE.

5. THE MFA HAS ADVISED US THAT NOOR WILL OVERNIGHT  
IN FRANKFURT, AND IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON  
ON PA 067 AT 1650 ON JULY 12.  
DUBS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AMBASSADORS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978KABUL05610  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780284-0963  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NEW AFGHAN AMBASSADOR DEPARTS FOR THE UNITED STATES  
**TAGS:** PINT, PEPR, US, AF  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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